

# CAMP WAWONA GAZETTE

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We solicit your  
prayers and gifts as  
we move forward  
with Phase II.

## Matt and Tess Morgan Join the Camp Wawona Team

**M**att serves as Camp Ranger and Tess as Office Manager.

Matt has an extensive construction background and can fix just about anything. He worked his way up through the ranks of Campbell Concrete Inc. from laborer to running the local division.

Tess has loved summer camp since she was a child. She was a camper for eight summers at Pine Springs Ranch and on staff for three of them. She was even a camper at Camp Wawona one year. Together they ran onsite operations at Mills Spring Ranch and Glacier View Ranch for several years. The Morgans met on October 31, 1985 at Pine Springs Ranch when the camp nurse from his church introduced them during a youth group scavenger hunt.

Matt and Tess met again the following May when he saw her at an intersection in Riverside, Calif. He followed her into a college parking lot. Tess was going to see a teacher, but it was the wrong day – it seemed quite providential. Matt got her phone number and they started dating.

Within a year, Matt and Tess were engaged. They were married in the La Sierra Seventh-day Adventist Church that Tess' grandfather helped build. Tess is sixth-generation Adventist. And their children, Robby and Cassie, represent the fourth-generation to attend La Sierra Academy and University.

Robby taught outdoor education leadership at Avondale College and is now a Bible Worker. Cassie taught English as a student missionary and



now studies Applied Theology just outside of Bangkok.

The Morgans are honored and humbled by God's grace in allowing them to be partners in ministry here at Camp Wawona.



# Summer Camp Transforming Children's Life

By: Pastor Edwin Perla

**D**ear Summer Camp Directors: I am writing to thank you for the work you do to share Jesus with your campers. Here is a camp story from Adain, Scott, Kristine, Makiah, Evany, Vanessa, Abraham and Natalia from my church district of Coalinga and Lemoore, Calif.

As I ended my third year of pastoring, it became evident that there were a few faithful grandparents bring their grandchildren to church each Sabbath. As I approached them and learned their burden was to have their grandchildren be part of a church, even though their children did not attend. I felt a desire to pray and ask God how our church could more supportive in helping these grandparents. Interestingly, that week I received a small black postcard announcing summer camp Camp Wawona.



I knew this is the direction God was leading. God impressed me to ask visitors, and also these grandparents, if the for the



reaction of the children's parents. However I asked them to pray and received permission. This was a blessing because I was able to speak with, visit, and encourage these parents to send their kids to summer camp.

For the families that were visitors, there was interest because they had never heard of summer camp or Camp Wawona. What helped me explain about camp was sitting with them, logging onto website, and watching the videos posted from the previous camps.

As I sat in their homes with their children watching the testimonies of the camper's experiences, I could feel the Holy Spirit work—convincing these parents that this was the right place for their children. For some families, finances were the biggest obstacle. I called Norma Villarreal and asked for help or scholarships for eight children in two churches. As it turned out, there was a camp three-way match program and some scholarship money available—another answer to prayer. As we worked hard to register the children, a relationship grew between the parents and myself. I was able to



visit with some of them and pray for this outcome together.

With God's help all eight children attended Camp Wawona for the first time. Because of summer camp, and to the glory and honor of God, two children from the Coalinga Church decided to be baptized in the Fall of 2016. Today Scott and Kristine are helping in our church. Pictured is Kristine, who is in 8th grade and has grown spiritually. She helps in song service, leads out in offertory calls, and prayers. Even though her parents do not attend, she and her two sisters are ready every Sabbath. Their parents even drive them to church, praise the Lord! In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them...". With God's help this year, our church is planning to send these same children back to camp and maybe more. It has become clear to me that the value of Camp Wawona outweighs the price, because Jesus asked us to bring the children to Him. Jesus and the Holy Spirit will take care of the rest.

Thank you Camp Wawona for being the hands and feet of Jesus for our children!

*Pastor Edwin Perla*

# Camp Wawona Staff Shares Christmas with the Community

By: Camp Wawona Staff

In order to celebrate our Lord's birth and share joy with our Wawona Community we baked peanut butter, chocolate chunk, oatmeal and sugar cookies. Ryan Urbina, our Food Director made a lovely light dinner, hot cocoa and apple cider. Timmy Baze, Lizy Pombo and some Oakhurst

families joined our Camp Wawona staff to have dinner, decorate and package cookies around a warm fire.

With cookie gifts in hand, we set out caroling for our neighbors, on both sides of the Merced River!

We braved the snow and rain as we walked to and from doors. We were greeted happily in the neighborhood. The next day, camp staff took cookies to Forrest and Susan Robertson,



the Rangers at the South Gate Entrance, the Big Trees Lodge Store, the Library and Fire Department, and to other neighbors that weren't home that night.

May the Lord bless you in His work in 2017!



## CAMP WAWONA SUMMER CAMP 2017

Name	Age	Dates	Rate
Cub	7-11	June 18-25	\$495
Cowboy (Cub)	7-11	June 18-25	\$495
SIT (Staff in Training)	16-17	June 18-25	\$345
Summit Yosemite (Beginner Backpacking)	13-17	June 18-25	\$495
Junior	9-12	June 25-July 2	\$495
Cowboy (Junior)	9-12	June 25-July 2	\$495
Summit Yosemite (Intermediate Backpacking)	13-17	June 25-July 2	\$495
Tween	12-14	July 2-9	\$495
Cowboy (Tween)	12-14	July 2-9	\$495
Summit Wilderness Survival	13-17	July 2-9	\$495
Summit Granite 1 (Rock Climbing)	13-17	July 2-9	\$495
Teen	13-17	July 9-16	\$495
Summit Granite 2 (Rock Climbing)	13-17	July 9-16	\$495
Summit Horse Pack	13-17	July 9-16	\$495
Family Camp 1	0 – 110	July 16-23	\$570*
Family Camp 2	0 – 110	July 23-30	\$570*

Discounts apply to members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

\*Adult per person price.



**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE  
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

Capital Campaign Department  
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Clovis, VA 93612

SUMMER CAMP 2017

ALIVE

EPHESIANS 2:4,5

SAVE THE DATE

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